

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1582

To provide for enhanced Federal enforcement of, and State and local assistance in the enforcement of, the immigration laws of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 12, 2021

Mr. TUBERVILLE (for himself, Mr. TILLIS, and Mr. ROUNDS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To provide for enhanced Federal enforcement of, and State and local assistance in the enforcement of, the immigration laws of the United States, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

4 This Act may be cited as the “Empowering Law En-
5 forcement Act of 2021”.

6 SEC. 2. STATE DEFINED.

7 In this Act, the term “State” has the meaning given
8 such term in section 101(a)(36) of the Immigration and
9 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(36)).

1 **SEC. 3. FEDERAL AFFIRMATION OF IMMIGRATION LAW EN-**
2 **FORCEMENT BY STATES AND POLITICAL SUB-**
3 **DIVISIONS OF STATES.**

4 Notwithstanding any other provision of law and re-
5 affirming the existing inherent authority of States, law en-
6 forcement personnel of a State or a political subdivision
7 of a State have the inherent authority of a sovereign entity
8 to investigate, identify, apprehend, arrest, detain, or
9 transfer to Federal custody aliens in the United States
10 (including the transportation of such aliens across State
11 lines to detention centers), for the purpose of assisting in
12 the enforcement of the immigration laws of the United
13 States in the normal course of carrying out their law en-
14 forcement duties. This State authority has never been dis-
15 placed or preempted by Federal law.

16 **SEC. 4. LISTING OF IMMIGRATION VIOLATORS IN THE NA-**
17 **TIONAL CRIME INFORMATION CENTER DATA-**
18 **BASE.**

19 (a) PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO THE NATIONAL
20 CRIME INFORMATION CENTER.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days
22 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
23 retary of Homeland Security shall submit to the Na-
24 tional Crime Information Center of the Department
25 of Justice (referred to in this section as the

1 “NCIC”) any information in the possession of the
2 Secretary related to—

3 (A) any alien against whom a final order
4 of removal has been issued;

5 (B) any alien who is subject to a voluntary
6 departure agreement;

7 (C) any alien who has remained in the
8 United States beyond the alien’s authorized pe-
9 riod of stay; and

10 (D) any alien whose visa has been revoked.

11 (2) REQUIREMENT TO PROVIDE AND USE IN-
12 FORMATION.—The information described in para-
13 graph (1) shall be submitted to the NCIC, and the
14 NCIC shall enter such information into the Immi-
15 gration Violators File of the NCIC database, regard-
16 less of whether—

17 (A) the alien received notice of a final
18 order of removal;

19 (B) the alien has already been removed; or

20 (C) sufficient identifying information is
21 available for the alien, such as a physical de-
22 scription of the alien.

23 (b) INCLUSION OF INFORMATION ABOUT IMMIGRA-
24 TION LAW VIOLATIONS IN THE NCIC DATABASE.—Sec-
25 tion 534(a) of title 28, United States Code, is amended—

1 (1) in paragraph (3), by striking “and” at the
2 end;

3 (2) by redesignating paragraph (4) as para-
4 graph (5); and

5 (3) by inserting after paragraph (3) the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(4) acquire, collect, classify, and preserve
8 records of violations of the immigration laws of the
9 United States, regardless of whether the alien has
10 received notice of the violation, sufficient identifying
11 information is available for the alien, or the alien
12 has already been removed; and”.

13 (c) PERMISSION TO DEPART VOLUNTARILY.—Sec-
14 tion 240B of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8
15 U.S.C. 1229c) is amended—

16 (1) by striking “Attorney General” each place
17 that term appears and inserting “Secretary of
18 Homeland Security”; and

19 (2) in subsection (a)(2)(A), by striking “120
20 days” and inserting “30 days”.

1 **SEC. 5. FEDERAL CUSTODY OF ILLEGAL ALIENS APPRE-**
2 **HENDED BY STATE OR LOCAL LAW ENFORCE-**
3 **MENT.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title II of the Immigration and
5 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1151 et seq.) is amended by
6 inserting after section 240C the following:

7 **“SEC. 240D. TRANSFER OF ILLEGAL ALIENS FROM STATE**
8 **TO FEDERAL CUSTODY.**

9 “(a) ILLEGAL ALIEN DEFINED.—In this section, the
10 term ‘illegal alien’ means an alien who—

11 “(1) entered the United States without inspec-
12 tion or at any time or place other than that des-
13 ignated by the Secretary of Homeland Security;

14 “(2) was admitted as a nonimmigrant and, at
15 the time the alien was taken into custody by the
16 State or political subdivision, had failed—

17 “(A) to maintain the nonimmigrant status
18 in which the alien was admitted or to which it
19 was changed under section 248; or

20 “(B) to comply with the conditions of the
21 status described in subparagraph (A);

22 “(3) was admitted as an immigrant and subse-
23 quently failed to comply with the requirements of
24 such status; or

1 “(4) failed to depart the United States as re-
2 quired under a voluntary departure agreement or
3 under a final order of removal.

4 “(b) IN GENERAL.—If the head of a law enforcement
5 entity of a State (or, if appropriate, a political subdivision
6 of the State), exercising authority with respect to the ap-
7 prehension or arrest of an illegal alien, submits a request
8 to the Secretary of Homeland Security that the alien be
9 taken into Federal custody, the Secretary shall—

10 “(1)(A) not later than 72 hours after the con-
11 clusion of the State charging process or dismissal
12 process (or if no State charging or dismissal process
13 is required, not later than 72 hours after the alien
14 is apprehended), take the alien into the custody of
15 the Federal Government and incarcerate the alien;
16 or

17 “(B) request that the relevant State or local
18 law enforcement agency temporarily detain or trans-
19 port the alien to a location for transfer to Federal
20 custody; and

21 “(2) designate at least 1 Federal, State, or
22 local prison or jail or a private contracted prison or
23 detention facility within each State as the central fa-
24 cility for law enforcement entities of such State to

1 transfer custody of criminal or illegal aliens to the
2 Department of Homeland Security.

3 “(c) REIMBURSEMENT.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland
5 Security shall reimburse a State or a political sub-
6 division of a State for all reasonable expenses, as de-
7 termined by the Secretary, incurred by the State or
8 political subdivision in the detention and transpor-
9 tation of a criminal or illegal alien under subsection
10 (b)(1).

11 “(2) COST COMPUTATION.—The amount reim-
12 bursed for costs incurred in the detention and trans-
13 portation of a criminal or illegal alien under sub-
14 section (b)(1) shall be equal to the sum of—

15 “(A) the product of—

16 “(i) the average cost of incarceration
17 of a prisoner in the relevant State, as de-
18 termined by the chief executive officer of
19 the State (or, as appropriate, a political
20 subdivision of the State); and

21 “(ii) the number of days that the alien
22 was in the custody of the State or political
23 subdivision; and

1 “(B) the cost of transporting the criminal
2 or illegal alien from the point of apprehension
3 or arrest to—

4 “(i) the location of detention; and
5 “(ii) if the location of detention and of
6 custody transfer are different, to the cus-
7 tody transfer point.

8 “(d) REQUIREMENT FOR APPROPRIATE SECURITY.—

9 The Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that ille-
10 gal aliens incarcerated in Federal facilities under this sec-
11 tion are held in facilities that provide an appropriate level
12 of security.

13 “(e) SCHEDULE REQUIREMENT.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out this sec-
15 tion, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall es-
16 tablish a regular circuit and schedule for the prompt
17 transfer of apprehended illegal aliens from the cus-
18 tody of States and political subdivisions of States to
19 Federal custody.

20 “(2) AUTHORITY FOR CONTRACTS.—The Sec-
21 retary of Homeland Security may enter into con-
22 tracts with appropriate State and local law enforce-
23 ment and detention officials to implement this sec-
24 tion.”.

1 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents
2 for the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101
3 et seq.) is amended by inserting after the item relating
4 to section 240C the following:

“Sec. 240D. Transfer of illegal aliens from State to Federal custody.”.

5 **SEC. 6. DETENTION OF DANGEROUS ALIENS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 241(a) of the Immigration
7 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1231(a)) is amended—

8 (1) by striking “Attorney General” each place
9 such term appears, except for the first reference in
10 paragraph (4)(B)(i), and inserting “Secretary of
11 Homeland Security”;

12 (2) in paragraph (1), by striking subparagraphs
13 (B) and (C) and inserting the following:

14 “(B) BEGINNING OF PERIOD.—The re-
15 moval period begins on the latest of—

16 “(i) the date on which the order of re-
17 moval becomes administratively final;

18 “(ii) if the alien is not in the custody
19 of the Secretary of Homeland Security on
20 the date on which the order of removal be-
21 comes administratively final, the date on
22 which the alien is taken into such custody;

23 or

24 “(iii) if the alien is detained or con-
25 fined (except under an immigration proc-

7 “(C) EXTENSION OF PERIOD.—

8 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The removal pe-
9 riod shall be extended beyond a period of
10 90 days and the Secretary of Homeland
11 Security may, in the Secretary’s sole dis-
12 cretion, keep the alien in detention during
13 such extended period if—

1 that is subject to an order of re-
2 moval;

“(IV) a court or the Board of Immigration Appeals orders a remand to the immigration judge or to the Board of Immigration Appeals while the case is pending a decision on remand (with the removal period beginning anew on the date on which the alien is ordered removed on remand),

22 “(ii) RENEWAL.—If the removal pe-
23 riod has been extended pursuant to clause
24 (i), a new removal period shall begin on
25 the date on which—

1 “(I) the alien makes all reasonable
2 efforts to comply with the removal order or to fully cooperate with
3 the Secretary of Homeland Security’s efforts to establish the alien’s identity
4 and carry out the removal order;

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7 “(II) the stay of removal is no longer in effect; or

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9 “(III) the alien is returned to the custody of the Secretary.

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11 “(iii) MANDATORY DETENTION FOR CERTAIN ALIENS.—The Secretary shall keep an alien described in section 236(c)(1) in detention during the extended period described in clause (i).

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16 “(iv) SOLE FORM OF RELIEF.—An alien may seek relief from detention under this subparagraph by filing an application for a writ of habeas corpus in accordance with chapter 153 of title 28, United States Code. No alien whose period of detention is extended under this subparagraph shall have the right to seek release on bond.”;

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24 (3) in paragraph (3)—

1 (A) by inserting “or is not detained pursuant
2 to paragraph (6)” after “removal period”;
3 and

4 (B) in subparagraph (D), by inserting “in
5 order to prevent the alien from absconding, for
6 the protection of the community, or for other
7 purposes related to the enforcement of the im-
8 migration laws” before the period at the end;

9 (4) in paragraph (4)(A), by striking “paragraph
10 (2)” and inserting “in subparagraph (B)”; and

11 (5) by amending paragraph (6) to read as fol-
12 lows:

13 “(6) ADDITIONAL RULES FOR DETENTION OR
14 RELEASE OF CERTAIN ALIENS.—

15 “(A) DETENTION REVIEW PROCESS FOR
16 COOPERATIVE ALIENS.—

17 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of
18 Homeland Security shall establish an ad-
19 ministrative review process to determine
20 whether an alien who is not otherwise sub-
21 ject to mandatory detention, who has made
22 all reasonable efforts to comply with a re-
23 moval order and to cooperate fully with the
24 Secretary’s efforts to establish the alien’s
25 identity and to carry out the removal

7 “(ii) DETERMINATION.—The Sec-
8 retary of Homeland Security shall deter-
9 mine whether to release an alien after the
10 removal period in accordance with sub-
11 paragraph (B). Such determination shall
12 include the consideration of any evidence
13 submitted by the alien and may include the
14 consideration of any other evidence, includ-
15 ing any information or assistance provided
16 by the Secretary of State or other Federal
17 official and any other information available
18 to the Secretary of Homeland Security per-
19 taining to the ability to remove the alien.
20 “(B) AUTHORITY TO DETAIN BEYOND RE-
21 MOVAL PERIOD.—

1 period (including any extension of the re-
2 moval period under paragraph (1)(C)). An
3 alien whose detention is extended under
4 this subparagraph is not entitled to seek
5 release on bond.

6 “(ii) SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES.—The
7 Secretary of Homeland Security, in the
8 sole discretion of the Secretary, may con-
9 tinue to detain an alien beyond the 90
10 days authorized under clause (i)—

11 “(I) until the alien is removed, if
12 the Secretary, in the sole discretion of
13 the Secretary, determines that there is
14 a significant likelihood that the
15 alien—

16 “(aa) will be removed in the
17 reasonably foreseeable future; or

18 “(bb) would be removed in
19 the reasonably foreseeable future,
20 or would have been removed, but
21 for the alien’s failure or refusal
22 to make all reasonable efforts to
23 comply with the removal order,
24 or to cooperate fully with the
25 Secretary’s efforts to establish

the alien's identity and carry out the removal order, including making timely application in good faith for travel or other documents necessary to the alien's departure, or conspires or acts to prevent removal;

“(II) until the alien is removed, if the Secretary of Homeland Security certifies in writing—

“(aa) in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, that the alien has a highly contagious disease that poses a threat to public safety;

“(bb) after receipt of a written recommendation from the Secretary of State, that release of the alien is likely to have serious adverse foreign policy consequences for the United States;

“(cc) based on information available to the Secretary of Homeland Security (including

9 “(dd) that the release of the
10 alien will threaten the safety of
11 the community or any person,
12 conditions of release cannot rea-
13 sonably be expected to ensure the
14 safety of the community or any
15 person, and either—

“(AA) the alien has been convicted of 1 or more aggravated felonies (as defined in section 101(a)(43)(A)), or 1 or more crimes identified by the Secretary of Homeland Security by regulation, or of 1 or more attempts or conspiracies to commit any such

1 tension of the removal period under
2 paragraph (1)(C)).

8 “(C) RENEWAL AND DELEGATION OF CER-
9 TIFICATION.—

“(i) RENEWAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security may renew a certification under subparagraph (B)(ii)(II) every 6 months, after providing an opportunity for the alien to request reconsideration of the certification and to submit documents or other evidence in support of that request. If the Secretary does not renew the certification, the Secretary may not continue to detain the alien under subparagraph (B)(ii)(II).

(B)(ii)(II) below the level of the Assistant Secretary for Immigration and Customs Enforcement.

4 “(iii) HEARING.—The Secretary of
5 Homeland Security may request that the
6 Attorney General or the Attorney General’s
7 designee provide for a hearing to make the
8 determination described in item (dd)(BB)
9 of subparagraph (B)(ii)(II).

10 “(D) RELEASE ON CONDITIONS.—If a
11 Federal court or the Board of Immigration Ap-
12 peals determines that an alien should be re-
13 leased from detention or if an immigration
14 judge orders a stay of removal, the Secretary of
15 Homeland Security, in discretion of the Sec-
16 retary, may impose conditions on release in ac-
17 cordance with paragraph (3).

18 “(E) REDETENTION.—

19 “(i) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of
20 Homeland Security, in the discretion of the
21 Secretary, without any limitations other
22 than those specified in this section, may
23 redetain any alien subject to a final re-
24 moval order who is released from custody
25 if—

1 “(I) removal becomes likely in
2 the reasonably foreseeable future;

3 “(II) the alien fails to comply
4 with the conditions of release or to
5 continue to satisfy the conditions de-
6 scribed in subparagraph (A); or

7 “(III) upon reconsideration, the
8 Secretary, in the sole discretion of the
9 Secretary, determines that the alien
10 can be detained under subparagraph
11 (B).

12 “(ii) APPLICABILITY.—This section
13 shall apply to any alien returned to cus-
14 tody pursuant to this subparagraph as if
15 the removal period terminated on the first
16 day of such redetention.

17 “(F) REVIEW OF DETERMINATIONS BY
18 SECRETARY.—A determination by the Secretary
19 of Homeland Security under this paragraph
20 shall not be subject to review by any other
21 agency.”.

22 (b) DETENTION OF ALIENS DURING REMOVAL PRO-
23 CEEDINGS.—Section 236 of the Immigration and Nation-
24 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1226) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “Attorney General” each place
2 such term appears (except in the second place the
3 term appears in subsection (a)) and inserting “Sec-
4 retary of Homeland Security”;

5 (2) in subsection (a)—

6 (A) in the matter preceding paragraph (1),
7 by inserting “the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
8 rity or” before “the Attorney General—”; and

9 (B) in paragraph (2)(B), by striking “con-
10 ditional parole;” and inserting “recognizance;”;

11 (3) in subsection (b), by striking “parole” and
12 inserting “recognizance”;

13 (4) in subsection (c), by amending paragraph
14 (1) to read as follows:

15 “(1) CUSTODY.—

16 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of
17 Homeland Security shall take into custody any
18 alien described in paragraph (2) or (3) of sec-
19 tion 212(a) or paragraph (2) or (4) of section
20 237(a), or who has no lawful status in the
21 United States and has been convicted for driv-
22 ing while intoxicated (including a conviction for
23 driving while under the influence or impaired by
24 alcohol or drugs), any time after the alien is re-
25 leased, regardless of whether the alien—

1 “(i) is released related to any activity,
2 offense, or conviction described in this
3 paragraph;

4 “(ii) is released on parole, supervised
5 release, or probation; or

6 “(iii) may be arrested or imprisoned
7 again for the same offense.

8 “(B) SUBSEQUENT CUSTODY.—If activity,
9 offense, or conviction described in subparagraph
10 (A) does not result in the alien being taken into
11 custody, the Secretary of Homeland Security
12 shall take such alien into custody—

13 “(i) when the alien is brought to the
14 attention of the Secretary; or

15 “(ii) when the Secretary determines it
16 is practical to take such alien into cus-
17 tody.”;

18 (5) in subsection (e), by striking “Attorney
19 General’s” and inserting “Secretary of Homeland
20 Security’s”; and

21 (6) by adding at the end the following:

22 “(f) LENGTH OF DETENTION.—

23 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
24 provision of this section, an alien may be detained
25 under this section, and an alien described in sub-

1 section (c) shall be detained, without time limitation,
2 except as provided in subsection (g), during the
3 pendency of removal proceedings.

4 “(2) CONSTRUCTION.—The length of detention
5 under this section shall not affect a detention au-
6 thorized under section 241.

7 “(g) RELEASE ON BOND.—

8 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An alien detained under
9 subsection (a) may seek release on bond. No bond
10 may be granted unless the alien establishes, by clear
11 and convincing evidence, that the alien is not a flight
12 risk or a risk to another person or to the commu-
13 nity.

14 “(2) CERTAIN ALIENS INELIGIBLE.—No alien
15 detained under subsection (c) may seek release on
16 bond.”.

17 (c) EFFECTIVE DATES.—

18 (1) SUBSECTION (A).—The amendments made
19 by subsection (a) shall take effect upon the date of
20 the enactment of this Act, and section 241 of the
21 Immigration and Nationality Act, as amended, shall
22 apply to—

23 (A) all aliens subject to a final administra-
24 tive removal, deportation, or exclusion order

that was issued before, on, or after the date of
the enactment of this Act; and

(B) acts and conditions occurring or existing before, on, or after such date.

11 SEC. 7. IMMIGRATION LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING OF
12 STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT PER-
13 SONNEL.

14 (a) TRAINING MANUAL AND POCKET GUIDE.—

15 (1) PUBLICATION.—Not later than 180 days
16 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
17 retary of Homeland Security shall publish—

(ii) the identification of fraudulent documents; and

7 (2) AVAILABILITY.—The training manual and
8 pocket guide published under paragraph (1) shall be
9 made available to all State and local law enforce-
10 ment personnel.

15 (4) COSTS.—The Secretary shall be responsible
16 for all costs incurred in the publication of the train-
17 ing manual and pocket guide under this subsection.

(b) TRAINING FLEXIBILITY —

19 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland
20 Security shall make training available to State and
21 local law enforcement officers through as many
22 means as possible, including—

23 (A) residential training at—

(ii) the Center for Domestic Preparedness of the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Anniston, Alabama;

(B) onsite training held at State or local police agencies or facilities;

(C) online training courses by computer,
teleconferencing, and videotape; and

(D) recording training courses on DVD.

16 (A) has all its servers based in the United
17 States:

18 (B) is sealable and survivable; and

(C) is capable of having a portal in place not later than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act.

1 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this Act
2 or in any other provision of law may be construed as mak-
3 ing any immigration-related training a requirement for, or
4 a prerequisite to, any State or local law enforcement offi-
5 cer exercising the inherent authority of the officer to inves-
6 tigate, identify, apprehend, arrest, detain, or transfer to
7 Federal custody illegal aliens during the normal course of
8 carrying out the law enforcement duties of the officer.

9 (d) TRAINING LIMITATION.—Section 287(g) of the
10 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1357(g)) is
11 amended—

12 (1) by striking “Attorney General” each place
13 that term appears and inserting “Secretary of
14 Homeland Security”; and

15 (2) in paragraph (2), by adding at the end the
16 following: “Training described in this paragraph
17 may not exceed 14 days or 80 hours, whichever is
18 longer.”.

19 **SEC. 8. IMMUNITY.**

20 (a) PERSONAL IMMUNITY.—

21 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other
22 provision of law, a law enforcement officer of a State
23 or of a political subdivision of a State shall be im-
24 mune from personal liability arising out of the en-

1 forcement of any immigration law to the same extent
2 as a Federal law enforcement officer is immune.

3 (2) APPLICABILITY.—The immunity provided
4 under paragraph (1) only applies to an officer of a
5 State, or of a political subdivision of a State, who
6 is acting within the scope of such officer's official
7 duties.

8 (b) AGENCY IMMUNITY.—Notwithstanding any other
9 provision of law, a law enforcement agency of a State, or
10 of a political subdivision of a State, shall be immune from
11 any claim for money damages based on Federal, State,
12 or local civil rights law for an incident arising out of the
13 enforcement of any immigration law, except to the extent
14 that the law enforcement officer of that agency, whose ac-
15 tion the claim involves, committed a violation of Federal,
16 State, or local criminal law in the course of enforcing such
17 immigration law.

